

PATENT**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

RE APPLICATION OF:

Reyes, et al.

APPLICATION No.: 09/851,410

FILED: May 7, 2001

FOR: ENTERICALLY TRANSMITTED NON-A/NON-B HEPATITIS VIRAL AGENT AND CHARACTERISTIC EPITOPE THEREOF

EXAMINER: Mosher, Mary
ART UNIT: 1648
CONF. NO: 2902**Amendment in Response to Office Action**

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the outstanding Office Action dated March 26, 2004 ("Office Action") in the captioned matter, and pursuant to the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.111, Applicants respectfully request entry and consideration of the following amendments and remarks. Applicants also file a request for extension for time to respond to the Office Action by one month whereby the period for reply is extended to, and including, July 26, 2004.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims beginning on page 3.

07/29/2004 FILED 00000029 00051410

01-FC-1251

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